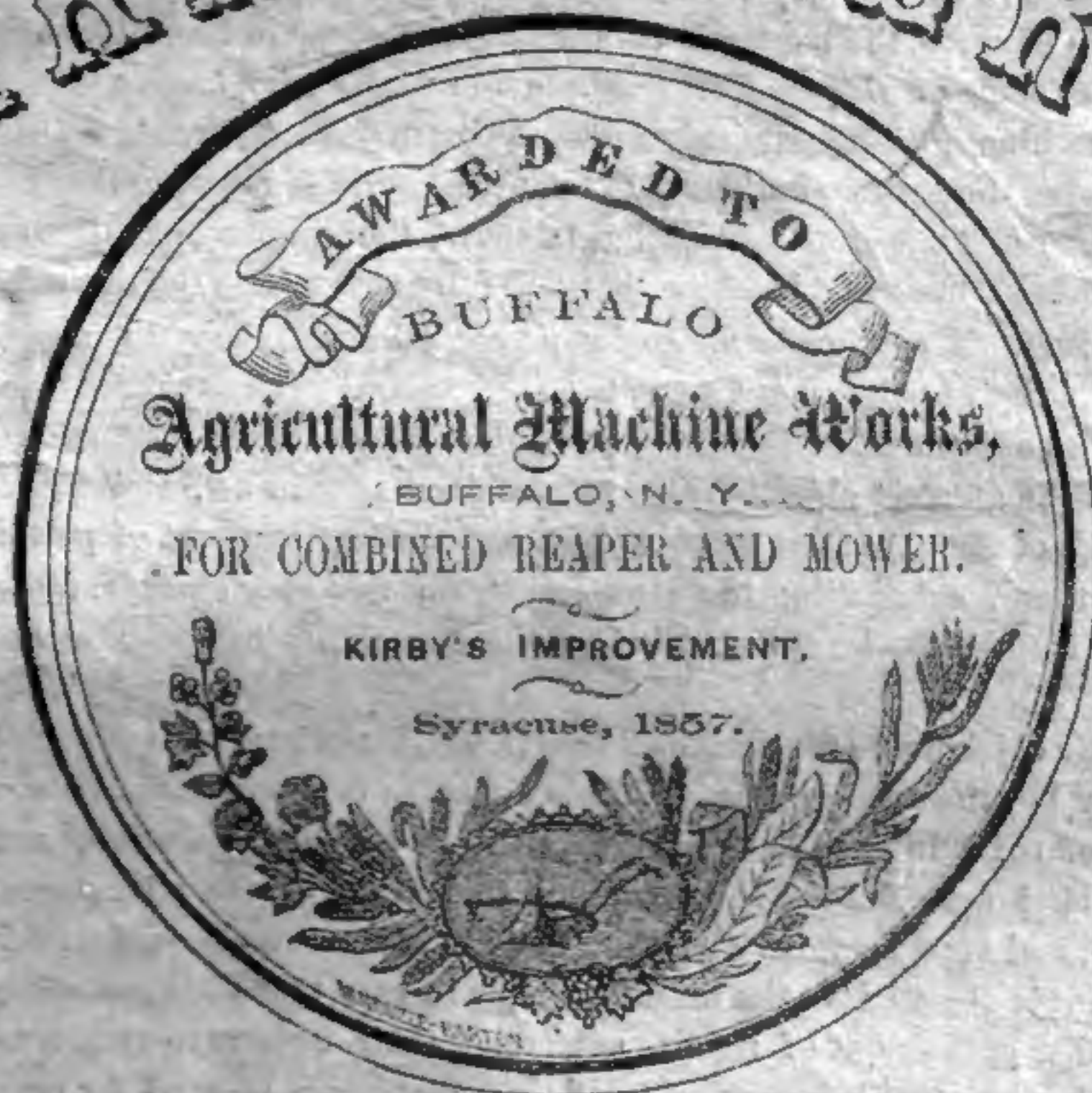


KIRBY'S AMERICAN

AND

LITTLE BUFFALO

HARVESTERS



MANUFACTURED BY

Buffalo Agricultural Machine Works,
BUFFALO, N. Y.

OFFICERS.

GEO. L. SQUIER, Pres't.
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LUCIAN HAWLEY, Sec'y.
J. VALENTINE, Sup't.

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Posted June 2019 by Brian D. Szafranski of Elma New York USA.
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MOWING AND REAPING MACHINES.

Among the many modern inventions and improvements in Agricultural Implements, none seem more important, and none attract more universal attention than the improved machines for reaping and mowing. The immense number of acres to be harvested in our country each year, the increasing scarcity and the high wages of good farm laborers, the necessity of securing the crops in favorable weather, and at the proper stage of ripening, all combine to create an imperative demand for some power machine, which by its economy and speed, shall supercede the ancient method of gathering the harvest by hand. This necessity is so pressing that for a few years past a large amount of the inventive talent of the country has been concentrated upon efforts to produce a machine that will fully accomplish the desired end. Many of the machines now made are so far successful as to show the practicability and great economy of power-harvesters, but none have yet fully realized the expectations and wishes of farmers.

One of the greatest objections to the machines now in use, and which holds good against all of them, is their great weight, and the large amount of power required to operate them, exhausting the strongest team in a very short time—an objection which it is felt must be obviated before these machines can be brought into universal use.

Another objection to the machines now in use, is the impracticability of using them upon any but the smoothest land. This objection is a very serious one, as the larger portion of the cultivated land in this country is rough and uneven, and the owners of such land are debarred from availing themselves of the advantages of a power-machine, and must compete with their neighbors on very unequal terms.

Again it is objected to the machines now in use, that they are complicated, and continually getting out of repair, subjecting their owners to vexatious delays and continual expense. A farmer seldom has conveniences at hand for repairing breakages, and simplicity and durability are elements of the first importance in all farm implements.

Again, none of those now used are good *combined* machines; while some are very good mowers and others very good reapers, none are equally good, *both* as mowers and reapers, and farmers are thus forced to buy two machines, one for mowing and one for reaping, or else do either their mowing or reaping very imperfectly or by hand, where the same machine *should* serve for both purposes.

We have been fortunate enough to secure a machine patented recently, which obviates these and other serious objections. The inventor, Mr. KIRBY, has been for years past engaged in building various kinds of mowers and reapers, and by a long practical experience was well qualified to judge of the defects of existing machines, and by severe study and many experiments, has been enabled to produce a machine in which he has been peculiarly happy in remedying these defects by the most simple expedients. On the following pages will be found illustrations and descriptions of this machine.

KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER.

Mr. WILLIAM A. KIRBY, the inventor of this HARVESTER, for some years superintended the manufacture of Harvesters in Buffalo, and by this means he attained a thorough practical knowledge of the working of Harvesters, and saw the many defects of those in general use, and the need of a better Machine. More particularly was his attention directed to three prominent objections to the Machines then in use, viz., their great weight and heavy draft, the rigid finger bar, enabling them to work only on smooth land, and their wooden frames constantly getting out of shape and out of repair. He believed these defects might be remedied, and he devoted his whole time for many months to study and experiment, and during the summer of 1855 built one Machine, embodying the principles which he had discovered. That Machine was successful beyond his most sanguine expectations; and it is a remarkable fact that the same Machine has been in successful use every season since, and has cut over four hundred acres of grain and grass; and the farmer who owns it says he thinks it the best Machine he ever saw. In 1856, Mr. KIRBY obtained two patents upon the principles embodied in his Machine, and during that year he made seven Machines, and sent them into different portions of the state of New York for trial. Though imperfect in manufacture, these Machines excited much attention, and worked to the entire satisfaction of those who used them, as will be seen by the testimonials on the following pages. The unprecedented success of these Machines confirmed the patentee in the conviction that the principles he had combined in them, though imperfectly developed, were correct, and he applied himself with renewed vigor to the perfection of the Machine in all its details; and those manufactured by the Buffalo Agricultural Machine Works, in 1857, were the results of his ingenuity and perseverance.

This Company commenced the manufacture of KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER in the spring of 1857, and during the season manufactured and sold two hundred Machines. These were distributed over a wide range of country, and subjected to the severest tests in all kinds of work, and upon every variety of ground. The immense growth of grass and grain during that year rendered it the severest season for testing the strength and capability of Harvesters that has occurred since they came into use, yet the AMERICAN HARVESTER passed triumphantly through the season,

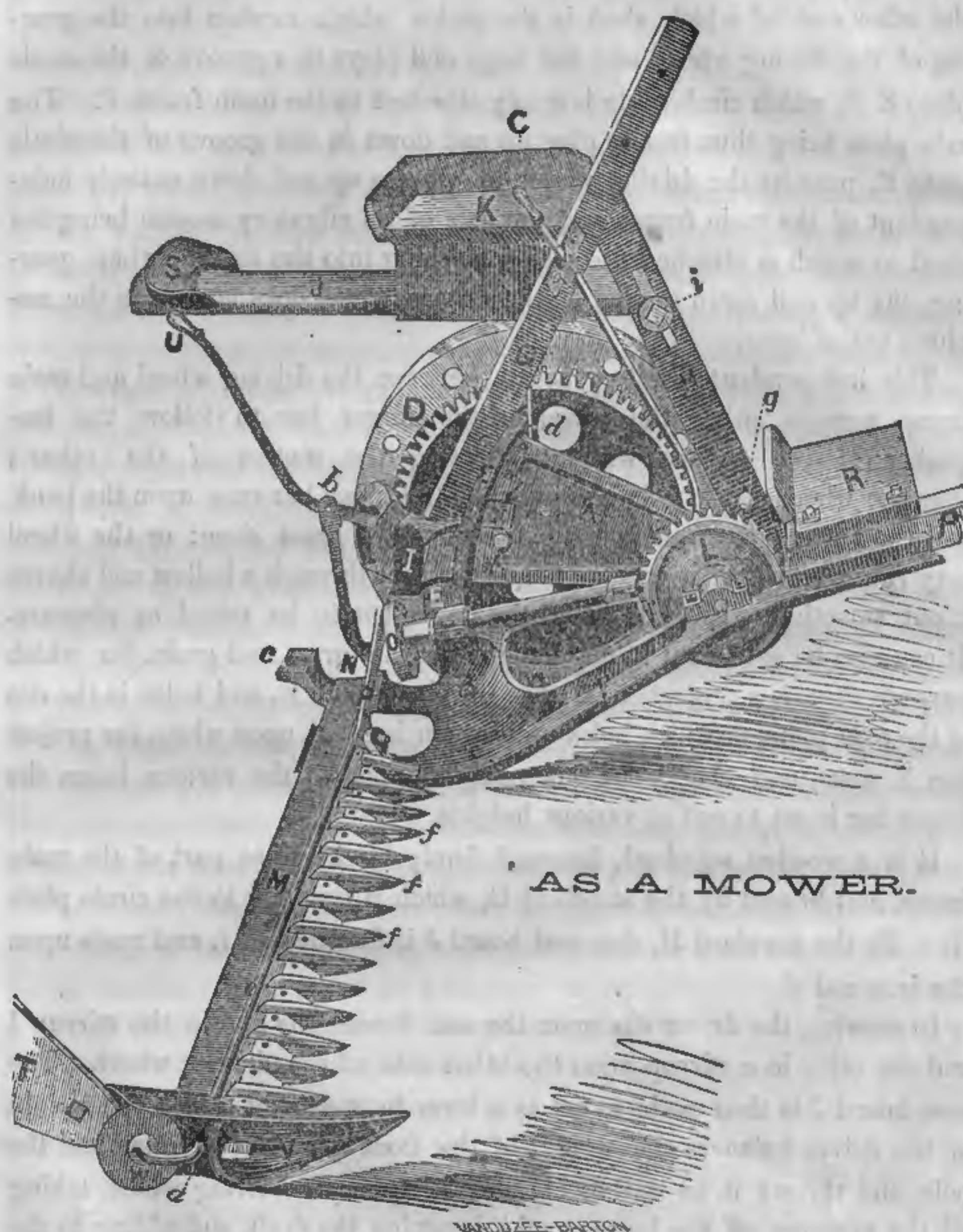


LITTLE BUFFALO HARVESTER

AS A REAPER.

The LITTLE BUFFALO HARVESTER cuts a swath 3 feet 8 inches wide in mowing, and 4 feet wide in reaping, and will cut from 8 to 12 acres of grass and from 10 to 15 acres of grain per day. It possesses all the advantages and distinguishing merits of the American Harvester, being constructed upon the same plan and principle. Although it is capable of performing as much work as most two horse machines, it is easily handled by one horse. With each machine, we furnish both pole and thills, so that it can be used with a span of ponies or with a single horse, at pleasure. As a Reaper, the Little Buffalo Harvester has proved perfectly successful, working well in all kinds of grain; and for lodged grain, it is unequalled, the convenient position of the raker, enabling him to control the grain however tangled, and deliver it in well formed gavels at the side of the machine by an easy circular sweep of his rake. It is a *perfect combined machine*, and we believe that its successful working, and the low price at which we offer it, will make the Little Buffalo Harvester a favorite with many farmers who have been waiting for the invention of just such a machine.

KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER



AS A MOWER.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MACHINE.

The above cut represents Kirby's American Harvester as a mower, and shows the working parts distinctly. D is the driving wheel, which turns on an axle attached to the axle plate A ; F is the main frame of the machine, which is made of iron, and of such peculiar form as to combine the greatest amount of strength with the least weight of iron. The small end

of the axle plate A turns freely around the shaft of the bevel gear L, on the other end of which shaft is the pinion which meshes into the gearing of the driving wheel, and the large end plays in a groove of the circle plate E E, which circle plate is firmly attached to the main frame F. The axle plate being thus free to play up and down in the groove of the circle plate E, permits the driving wheel to vibrate up and down entirely independent of the main frame, and the axis of its vibratory motion being the shaft to which is attached the pinion meshing into the driving wheel gearing, the up and down motion of the driving wheel does not throw the machine out of gear.

This independent vibratory action between the driving wheel and main frame, permits either the wheel or the finger bar to follow the inequality of the surface without affecting the motion of the other; thus the wheel may run in a ditch while the finger bar runs upon the bank, and the cutters continue in motion cutting the grass close; or the wheel may run over a knoll, while the finger bar runs through a hollow and shaves it out smoothly. It also enables the finger bar to be raised at pleasure. It can also be set to cut at any height both in grass and grain, for which purpose there is a projection X upon the circle plate E, and holes in the rim of the axle plate, to which holes an iron pin is fitted, upon which the projection X rests, and simply by changing the pin to the various holes, the finger bar is set to cut at various heights.

H is a wooden standard, fastened firmly to the front part of the main frame, and braced by the standard G, which is fastened to the circle plate E. To the standard H, the seat board J is fastened at *i*, and rests upon the iron rod *d*.

In mowing, the driver sits upon the seat S with one foot in the stirrup I and the other in a stirrup upon the other side of the driving wheel. The seat board J is thus made to act as a lever by means of which the weight of the driver balances the weight of the front part of the frame and the pole, and throws it, as well as his weight, upon the driving wheel, taking all the pressure off the horses necks, lessening the draft, and adding to the power of the driving wheel sufficiently to hold it to the ground without using an unnecessary weight of iron for that purpose. The machine is thus made to run lighter and easier with the weight of the driver added. The seat S may be moved forward or back according to the weight of the driver, so as to make a perfect balance in all cases.

M is a wrought iron finger bar, with a flange upon the front edge through which the fingers *f f f* are bolted.

V is the outside shoe, fastened by means of a false shoe to the finger bar,

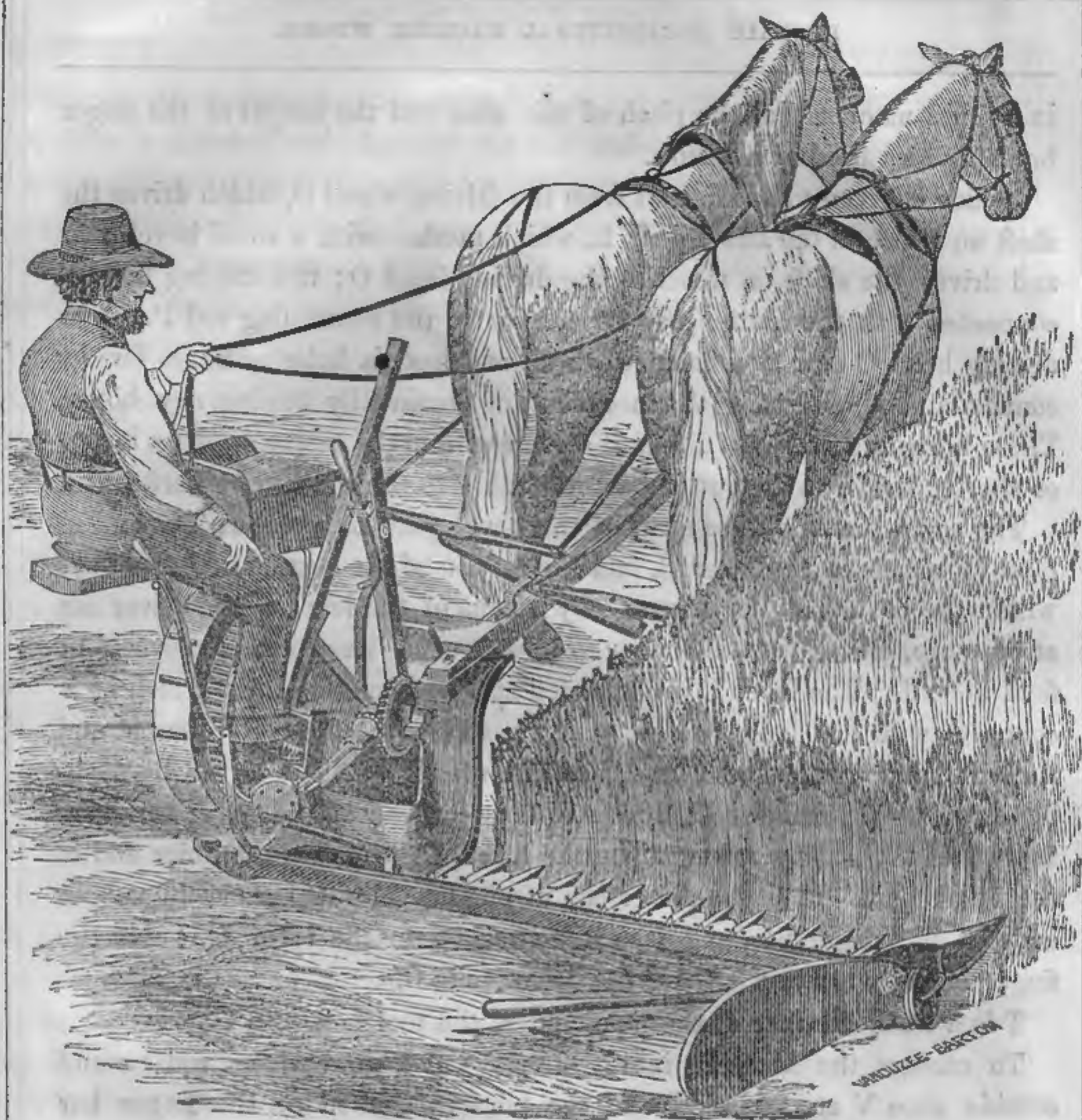
in such a manner that the pitch of the shoe and the height of the finger bar may be varied at pleasure.

Motion is given to the cutters from the driving wheel D, which drives the shaft on which is the bevel gear L, which meshes with a small bevel gear and drives the shaft on which is the driving head O; this driving head is connected with the cutter bar by means of the connecting rod P. The driving head O acts as a balance wheel, and has six holes or boxes for the connecting rod, obviating the necessity of continually buying new boxes. These boxes are placed at different distances from the centre, to give a longer or shorter stroke to the cutter bar, according to the work to be performed.

The small pinion on the shaft of the bevel gear L, is thrown out and in gear by means of the lever C, and the motion of the cutters is thus always within the control of the driver. By means of the lever U the driver can at pleasure, elevate the finger bar to pass over obstructions, or move from field to field. The lever U is connected at *b* with another lever which at N connects with the long rod *e e*, which passes along the finger bar M and through the outside shoe V at *a*, into the wheel W. The driver, by pushing down upon the lever U, throws the outside end of the finger bar upon the wheel W, and by raising upon the lever U, he raises the inner end of the finger bar. Thus the driver can at pleasure elevate either end or both ends of the finger bar, and a spring attached to the lever U, holds the finger bar in whatever position the driver puts it.

T is a track clearer; P the pole, and K the tool box.

To convert the Machine into a Reaper, the lever U, long rod *e e* and outside shoe V are taken off, and the platform bolted on the finger bar M. The raker's seat is a board bolted to one end of a long wooden lever, or spring, which is bolted to the standard H through the hole *g* and rests on the top of the stirrup I, the seat being about parallel with the driver's seat S, and the raker sits with one foot in the stirrup *c* and the other on the platform. The iron S of the driver's seat is transferred to the raker's seat. In reaping, the weight of the raker balances the front of the frame, and the driver sits upon the tool box K with his feet upon the foot board R. The frame and inner end of the finger bar is elevated and fastened at the proper height, by putting the bolt under the projection, X, of the circle plate, E, into the upper holes of the axle plate A. There is a wheel upon the outer side of the platform, with an arrangement for varying the height, which carries the outer end of the finger bar at the proper height. One end of the reel goes into the holes in the upper end of the standard G, and the other end into the reel arm attached to the platform. The belt that carries the reel passes around a small pulley at the side of the bevel gear L, and a larger pulley on the inner end of the reel shaft.



The above cut represents Kirby's American Harvester, as it appears in the field at work as a Mower; and the cut upon the opposite page represents the same machine as it appears in the field Reaping. As a Mower, it cuts a swath 4 feet 8 inches wide, and will cut from 10 to 15 acres of grass per day. As a Reaper, it cuts a swath 5 feet wide, and will cut from 12 to 18 acres of grain per day. In mowing, the driver's seat is remarkably convenient and easy, he being back of the cutter bar so that he can keep the working of the machine constantly under his eye, and control its action by means of the levers within his reach, while the gentle undulatory motion of the seat, relieves him of the weariness of constantly sitting in one position. In reaping, the raker has a spring seat, and his position enables him to deliver the gavels at the side of the machine by an easy quarter turn motion or circular sweep of the rake.

PRICES OF KIRBY'S HARVESTERS AT THE FACTORY.

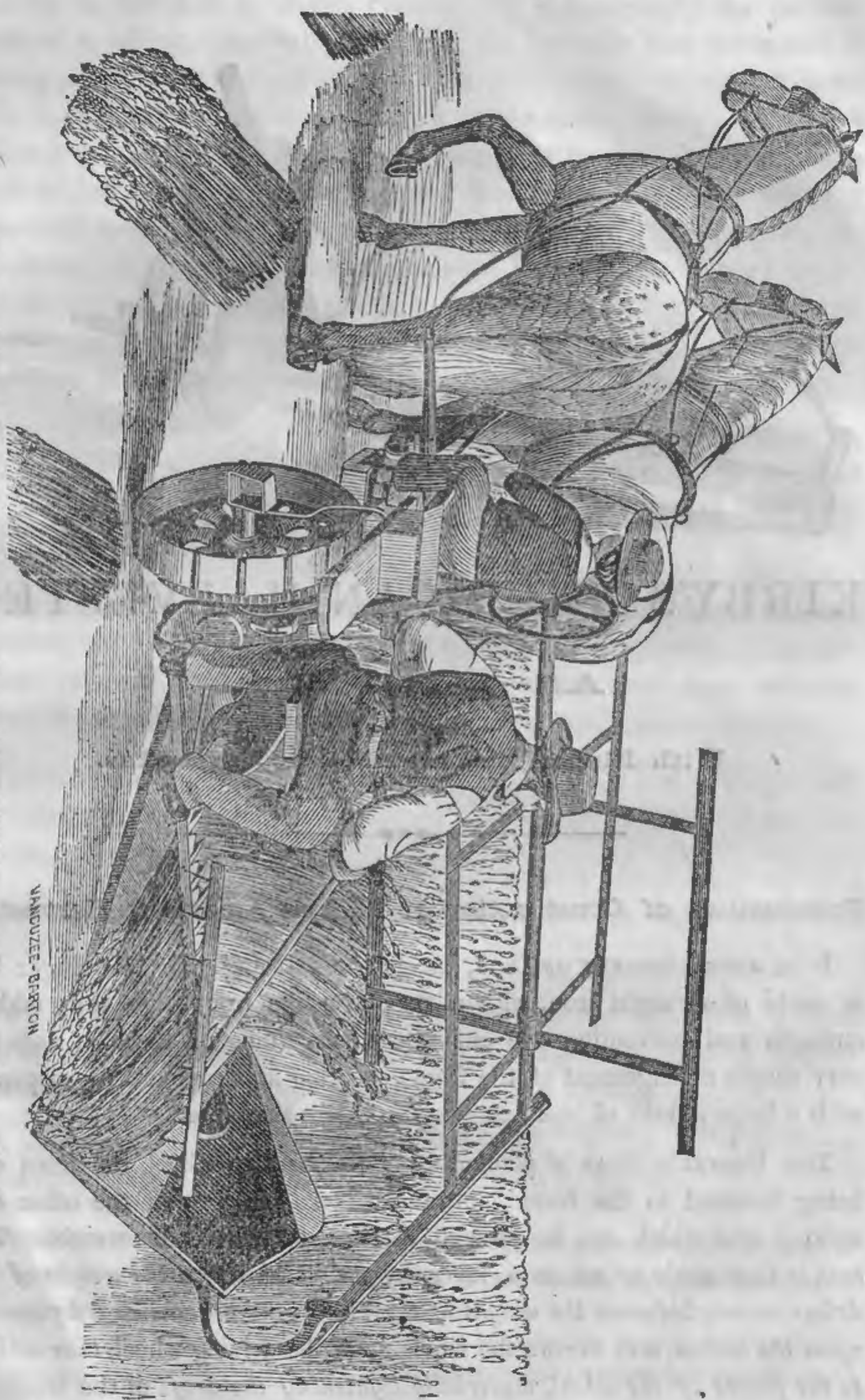
American Harvester, as Mower, \$105.00	Little Buffalo Harvester, as Mower, \$90.00
Do. do. Comb'd. 125.00	Do. do. Comb'd 100.00

When the finger bar is attached rigidly to the frame, and lies heavily upon the ground, any inequality of the ground causes both an unusual side draft and a greatly increased direct draft, for, when the wheel goes into a depression, or the bar strikes an elevation, nearly the whole weight of the Machine comes on the bar, destroying the power of the wheel, cutting the grass very unevenly, and badly straining the Machine, if not entirely stopping it. Machines made with the cutter bar in front of the driving wheel, with a lever to raise and lower it, are certain, if the bar is dropped to the ground, to run into and cut off all the ground above a certain level; or, if lifted off the ground, to clear elevations, cut the grass high, and throw the weight all on the horses necks. From this it is apparent that the flexibility of the finger bar in the Kirby Machine gives it an incalculable advantage, in ease of draft, over the lightest of other Machines on rough ground.

3. PRICE. *It is the lowest priced Machine in market.* Every man's pocket will testify to the advantages of the Kirby Machine in this item.

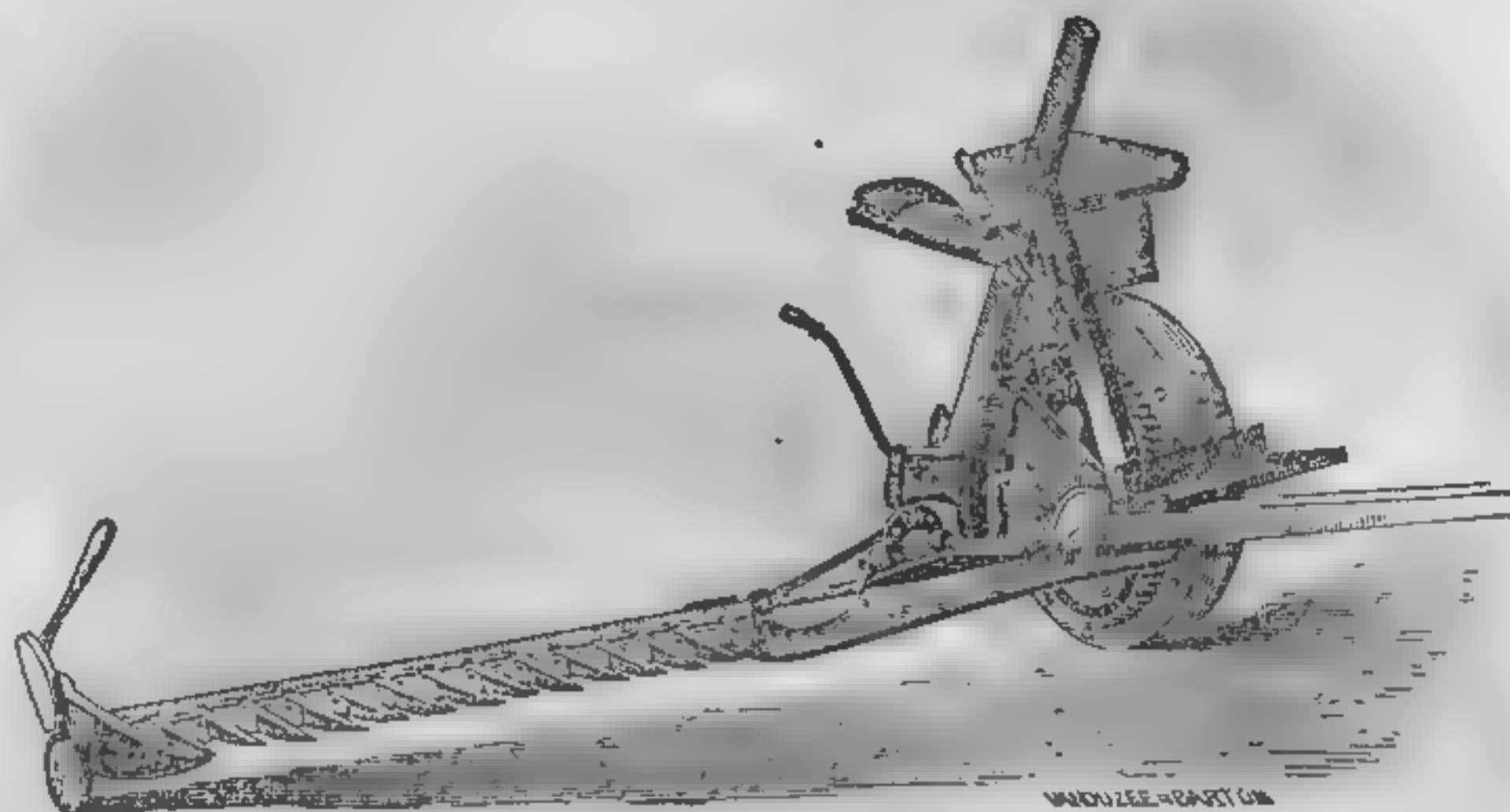
4. STRENGTH. The Machine is made entirely of iron, except the seat and pole. The weight is so distributed as to give the greatest amount of strength with the least weight of iron. All parts that are liable to strain are made very strong. We pay an extra price for materials, for the sake of getting the strongest the market affords, and the Machine will stand any test of strength that a Machine is capable of enduring.

5. DURABILITY. Being made entirely of iron, the Machine is not liable to decay, nor shrink, nor check, nor warp, by exposure to the weather. It is well known that Machines, made with a wooden frame, on exposure to the storms, dews and severe heat of summer, will shrink and swell, and warp and check. This, besides gradually weakening and destroying the frame, throws the iron work, and the running parts attached to it, out of place, causing one part to bind and another to wear; and every hot day, every shower, and every night's exposure, increases the difficulty, until the Machine is destroyed. These are difficulties that cannot be overcome in a wood frame Machine, but are entirely obviated in one with an iron frame. The simplicity of the Kirby Machine also increases its durability, for every one knows that the more complicated a Machine is, the greater is its liability to get out of order. There are but few parts in this Machine that are liable to wear, and those parts are so constructed that they can be easily removed and replaced. The independent action of the finger bar greatly lessens its liability to breakage. When the finger bar is attached rigidly to the frame and driving wheel, upon coming suddenly in contact with any obstruction, the whole weight and force of the Machine is brought to bear at



VANDUZEE-BRITTON

KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER, AS A REAPER.



KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER AS A MOWER.

With Finger Bar elevated by the Lifter.

Peculiarities of Construction of Kirby's American Harvester.

IT IS MADE ENTIRELY OF IRON, except the seat and pole; the finger bar is made of wrought iron, with a flange on the front edge, thus adding strength and preventing the cut grass from riding on the bar; and the very simple arrangement of the frame, gearing and connections, dispenses with a large weight of iron necessary in other Machines.

THE DRIVER'S SEAT is pivoted over the Driving wheel, the front end being fastened to the frame, and the driver sitting upon the other end upon a seat which can be gauged to correspond with his weight. The seat is thus made to act as a lever, by means of which *the weight of the driver counterbalances the weight of the frame and the downward pressure upon the horses*, and throws the whole upon the driving wheel, *thus adding to the power of the wheel, materially lightening the draft of the Machine, obviating the side draft, relieving the horses from the pressure and weight of the frame*, and permitting the *knives and fingers* to more easily lift over stones and obstructions, and thus rendering them *less liable to injury*.

INDEPENDENT ACTION OF THE FINGER BAR is secured by the peculiar mode of attaching the driving wheel to the frame, so that the wheel in passing over uneven ground does not carry the finger bar up and down with it, as in other Machines, but each acting independently, *the fingers follow the ground*, thus enabling the Machines to *work well on uneven surfaces*. This independent action and flexibility of the finger bar *very materially lessens the liability of breakage* in coming in contact with obstructions. It also permits the finger bar to be set at *any desired height*, both in mowing and reaping, enabling the Machine to work equally well whether the ground be wet or dry, hard or soft, and rendering it a perfect COMBINED MACHINE, working equally well whether mowing or reaping.

THE CUTTERS are placed upon the bar, with spaces between them, to enable the gum and other substances that clog a Machine to work out; and the *rivet heads* project and play through slots in the fingers, *effectually clearing the Machine at every stroke*.

THE GUARD FINGERS are fastened to the Machine in a simple manner, requiring but few bolts, and are easily removed and replaced. They are of cast iron, and whole both at top and bottom, and more than twice as strong as the ordinary open guards.

THE CONNECTION from the *crank head to the knife rod* is simple and light, *doing away with the continuous expense of renewing boxes and cranks*, as in other Machines.

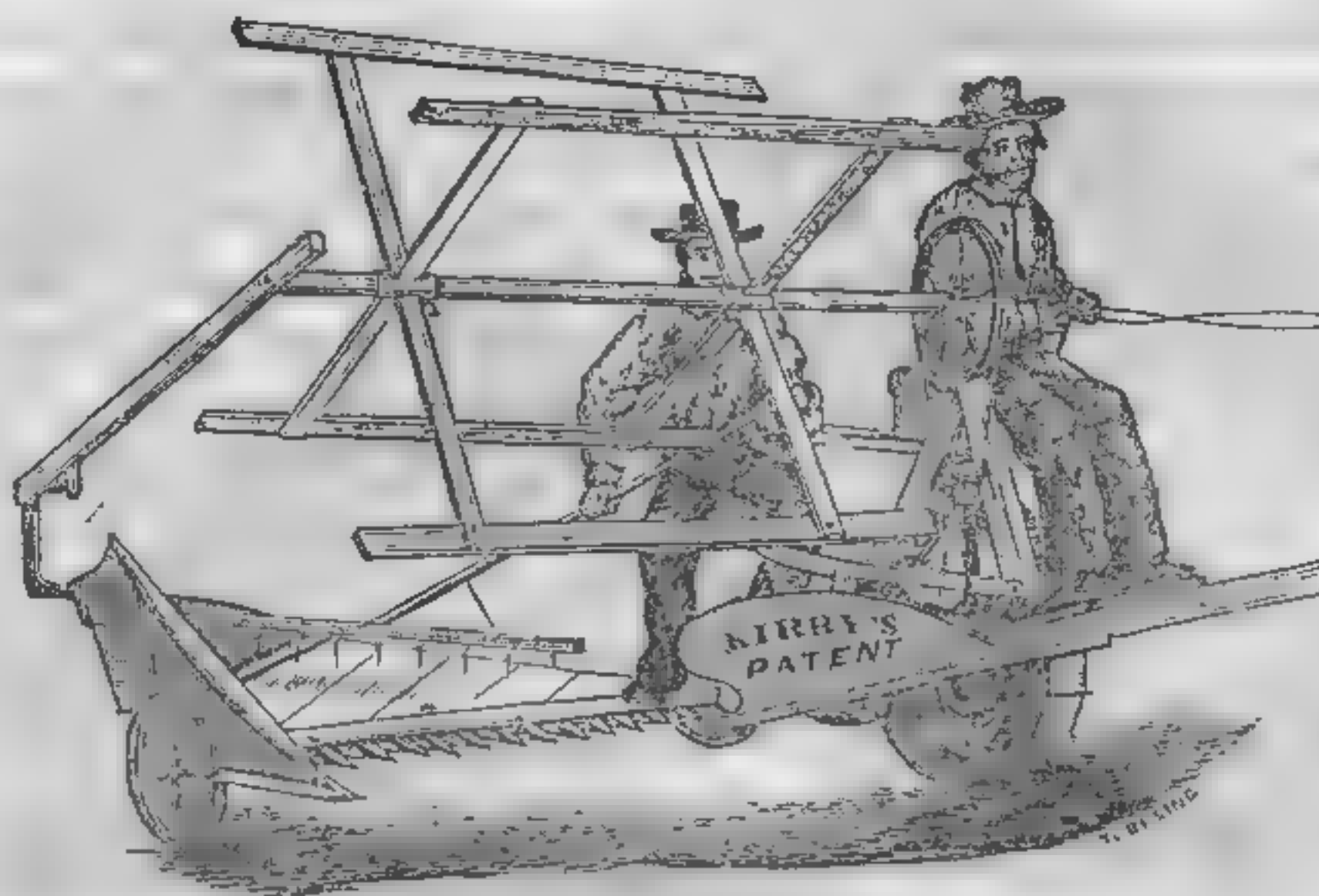
THE RAKER'S SEAT is very easy, and his position the most convenient possible for raking off the grain.

THE GEARING is very simple, and the speed so regulated that it does not require a fast walking team to operate it. Oxen can be used to good advantage.

A LEVER is attached, in a convenient position, for the driver to throw the cutters out and in gear while the Machine is in motion.

BY MEANS OF A LIFTER, the driver can at pleasure, *elevate either end or both ends of the finger bar*, to pass over obstructions, carry his swarth, or move from field to field.

SIMPLICITY OF CONSTRUCTION, STRENGTH, AND DURABILITY are attained in the highest degree, by the ingenious and simple combination of all parts of the Machine.



KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER AS A REAPER.

The Superiority of Kirby's American Harvester

Over all others will become more obvious by looking at its several superior points in detail, and then considering that all these separate excellencies are combined in one Machine, in the most simple and effective manner. In some of these excellencies it is entirely unequalled, and in none of them is it surpassed. While other Machines may equal it in some of its desirable qualities, we can safely say there is not another Machine in the world which combines all the excellencies that are found combined in KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER. These excellencies are:

1. WEIGHT. *It is the lightest Machine in use*, as will be seen by referring to the Report of the Judges at the Syracuse Trial. The immense advantage which this lightness gives to the Kirby Machine over all others, will be apparent to any one who will carefully consider the remarks of the Judges upon that point.

2. EASE OF DRAFT. It will be seen by reference to the tables of draft, and the numerous testimonials on the following pages, that it is the *lightest draft Machine in use*. The tables show this to be so on perfectly smooth land, but on rough and hilly land the difference between this and other Machines would be still more marked; not only on account of the lightness of the Machine, but also on account of the *flexibility of the finger bar*.

once upon the point of resistance; but with a flexible and movable finger bar, there is a giving and lifting of the bar, which brings the strain upon it gradually and slowly, and very much lessens the liability to breakage. Again, a flexible bar will *pass over* many obstructions which would stop or break a Machine with a rigid bar. The guard fingers being whole on the top, are much less liable to break than the common open finger.

6. SIMPLICITY OF CONSTRUCTION. A glance at the Machine will render obvious its marvellous simplicity in all its parts and combinations. It is easily put together, easily altered to adapt it to different kinds of work, and is entirely free from the "traps" with which most Machines are encumbered. It does not require an experienced mechanic to work it, nor a machine shop to keep it in order. Every farmer will appreciate these advantages.

7. ABILITY TO WORK ON ROUGH GROUND. In this respect it is entirely unequalled by any Machine yet produced. The independent action of the finger bar enables it to go through dead furrows and ditches, among stones and bogs, and over knolls and hills, where no other Machine can follow it.

8. ADAPTATION TO ALL KINDS OF WORK. The independent action of the finger bar not only enables it to work on rough ground, but adapts it to every variety of soil—whether sand, clay, or wet marsh; whether soft or hard, rough or smooth, stony or hilly; to all kinds of forage, early and late, light and heavy, soft, fine, and wet grass, lodged and standing clover; to all kinds of work—whether mowing, or reaping, or gathering grass and clover seed. It can be set to work at any height, from two inches up to eighteen inches, and the change can be made in an instant.

9. IT IS A PERFECT COMBINED MACHINE, working equally well whether mowing or reaping. This is an advantage which cannot be too highly prized. While there are many Machines that are very good mowers, and others that are good reapers, there is scarcely a good *Combined Machine* to be found. But Mr. Kirby has furnished to the farmer the *two Machines combined* at the cost of a single one, and so thoroughly perfected, that as a Mower it will work as well as the best of those adapted only to mowing; and as a Reaper, as well as the best of those adapted only to reaping; and yet so simple in construction, that the change from Mower to Reaper is made in a moment.

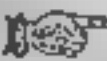
10. EASE OF THE RAKER'S POSITION. In all other Machines having a side delivery, the raker is obliged to stand in an awkward and tiresome position to rake the grain off. In the Kirby Machine, the new and pecu-

liar position of the raker's seat, enables him to set upon a spring seat in an easy position, and, with a rake of a novel form, to take off the gavels at the side, out of the way of the horses, with but one movement of his arms, which is as natural and easy as if he were standing on the ground and raking.

11. **PRESSURE UPON THE HORSES NECKS** is taken off and obviated by the peculiar position of the driver's seat. This pressure has been a serious objection to most of the Machines heretofore made, and some have attempted to obviate it by jointing the pole, and putting a small castor wheel under the front portion of the frame to sustain it; but in practice this method is found to have serious objections. Such a wheel must necessarily be small, and on ground that is in the least uneven, it will drop into every little depression, requiring extra power to lift it out, and to drag it over all elevations of surface, while it is impossible to run it through dead furrows and water furrows. The castor wheel not only adds very much to the draft of the Machine, but, on ground that is not entirely smooth, it causes a continual thumping of the pole upon the horses breasts. In one neighborhood last season, four horses died from inflammation of the lungs, caused by working them on such Machines. But few farmers can afford to furnish horses for such wholesale slaughter. In the Kirby Machine this pressure is obviated by making the driver's seat a lever, by means of which the driver counterbalances the weight of the frame, and throws it on to the driving wheel, where it is most easily drawn, and the Machine actually runs lighter with the driver's weight added, while in other Machines the driver's weight adds so much to the draft of the Machine. It has been a matter of surprise with many, that a Machine so light could hold itself to the ground with power sufficient to drive the gearing and cutter bar, but the fact that the weight of the frame and driver are thrown on the driving wheel, thus adding to its power, explains it.

12. **IT CANNOT BE CLOGGED**, in any kind of grass, be the same wet or dry. The peculiar shape of the fingers, and the method of putting on the knives, renders it self-clearing at every stroke.

13. **IT SPREADS THE GRASS** better than can be done by hand. The cutter bar being of wrought iron, and much narrower than the wooden bars, the grass falls over as it is cut, and does not pile up on the bar and drag and clog.

 **We Challenge the World to Produce a Machine which Combines all these Advantages so Perfectly as Kirby's American Harvester.**



LITTLE BUFFALO HARVESTER AS A MOWER.

Kirby's American Harvester having proved to be of so light draft—far excelling all other machines yet invented in this particular—it occurred to us that the long sought desideratum, a successful *One-horse Harvester*, might be constructed upon the same principle. We accordingly instituted experiments, which have resulted in the production of the **LITTLE BUFFALO HARVESTER**. We constructed our patterns, and built a few of these machines in the spring of 1858, but having witnessed so many failures of machines that had been put into market before they had been subjected to any practical tests, we determined not to advertise these nor offer them to the public until they had been thoroughly tested, and subjected to the various trials incident to a whole season's constant use. A few of them were sold to men, who, having seen them, were so pleased with them, that they would take no denial, and the remainder we put into the hands of practical farmers, with directions to test them as thoroughly as it was possible to do, in all kinds of work, and not to spare nor favor them in any manner. The result of the season's test, has been a perfect triumph for the machine, as the testimonials on the following pages will show; and we now offer the **LITTLE BUFFALO HARVESTER** to the public as a thoroughly successful machine, both in Mowing and Reaping.

and gave the most unqualified satisfaction to those farmers who purchased it, as the testimonials on the following pages will show.

The early and complete success of the AMERICAN HARVESTER is unparalleled in the history of such Machines. While of the many Harvesters that have been invented, the larger portion have proved entire failures when submitted to practical tests, and the few that have succeeded, have required years of experiment, and many alterations, before they could be made to work, the KIRBY MACHINE has, in the first year of its manufacture, taken a stand with the foremost of such Machines. Nothing could more fully attest the correctness of the principles upon which it is constructed, nor could there be a more emphatic voucher of the ingenuity of the inventor.

For the harvest of 1858, over 1000 Machines were manufactured and distributed throughout the country from Maine to Missouri, and everywhere they fully vindicated their right to the reputation they had previously acquired, of being the best combined Machines yet invented, everywhere holding their ground as the cheapest, lightest, most durable, efficient and convenient Machines in market.

Notwithstanding the entire success of the Machine the past two years, we feel confident that we can offer to farmers the coming season a still more perfect Harvester. We have made new patterns throughout, and greatly strengthened and improved the form of the various parts.

We have added two entirely new features to the Machine which greatly facilitate its operation and management, viz. a LEVER by means of which the driver can throw the cutters out and in gear while the Machine is in motion, and a LIFTER by which the driver can at pleasure elevate either end or both ends of the finger bar to pass over obstructions or carry his swarth, or move from field to field.

We spare no pains nor expense in selecting the best materials that can be procured for the manufacture of the Machines, and in workmanship and finish, our aim is to excel every manufactory in the country. The castings are made of Salisbury iron, (the strongest and highest priced iron known;) the bolts of the best Norway iron, with forged nuts; the finger bars are wrought iron of refined scrap rolled to our order; and the cutters of steel rolled in England expressly for the Kirby Machine. We employ the inventor, Mr. Kirby, at a high salary, to devote his whole time and attention to the perfection of the Machine in all its details, and every department is under the supervision of thorough and experienced mechanics. As our Harvester is avowedly the best in principle, we intend to make it also the most thoroughly made and perfectly finished Machine in the world.



TRIALS AND PREMIUMS.

In the various TRIALS that occurred in 1858, KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER was remarkably, yet deservedly successful, as the many FIRST PREMIUMS awarded to it at State and County Fairs and Trials, attest. Its unequalled combination of superior points, enables it to distance all competitors, and during the season it has met and vanquished, in fair trial, every machine of any reputation in the country.

At the New York State Fair, it was awarded the First Premium and a Silver Medal as the best reaper.

At the Indiana State Fair, it received the First Premium as the best combined machine.

The Tonawanda Valley Agricultural Society awarded it the First Premium at their Fair at Attica, N. Y., Sept. 23d, 1858.

At a trial of mowers, at Wyoming, N. Y., July 6th, 1858, the First Premium was awarded to Kirby's American Harvester.

At a trial at North Java, N. Y., July 10th, 1858, it received the First Premium.

At a trial of Harvesters at Delaware, Ohio, July 6th, 1858, under the auspices of the Delaware County Agricultural Society, Kirby's American Harvester received the First Premium as a Reaper, and Second Premium as a Combined Machine, and the committee stood two to three for giving First Premium as a Combined Machine.

At the Erie County Fair the First Premium, as combined machine, was awarded to Kirby's American Harvester.

It will be observed that all these marked advantages which the Judges consider of so great importance, are possessed by KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER.

We here close our quotations from this valuable report. We cannot but feel that both farmers and manufacturers are greatly indebted to the Society for the many important points that have been brought out and established by this Trial, in reference to Mowing and Reaping Machines—points which will aid the manufacturer in his experiments for improving his Machine, and guide the farmer in making his selection from the various Machines in the market.

In confirmation of the extreme lightness of draft of the Kirby Machine, as indicated by the Dynamometer at the Syracuse Trial, we give the reported amount of draft of various Machines at a Trial of Reapers in Hamilton, Ohio, in July, 1857, where the power required to operate the several Machines was tested by the Dynamometer, with the following result, showing Kirby's Machine to be the lightest draft Machine on the ground:

	lbs.
Kirby's Machine,-----	200
Hiltz's "-----	225
Whiteby's "-----	225
Hussey's "-----	225
Iron Harvester,-----	250
Ohio "-----	275
Atkins' "-----	275
McCormick's Harvester,-----	275
" "-----	300
J. J. Mann & Son's Machine,-----	300
Manny's Machine,-----	300

NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, Jan. 25, 1859.

Buffalo contains several Agricultural Machine manufactories, which are known throughout the entire country as extensive establishments, and producers of implements of distinguished merit. Among this valuable class of mechanical enterprises which have sprung up within a very few years, the Buffalo Agricultural Machine Works occupy a prominent position. The Works are the property of a stock company, with a large capital all paid in, of which GEORGE L. SQUIER, Esq., is President, F. B. SQUIER, Agent, LUCIEN HAYLEY, Secretary, and JOHN VALENTINE, Superintendent. Only about two years have elapsed since the Works went into operation, yet they stand in the front rank for the ingenuity, utility and strength of their machines and implements. The manufactory is situated on Scott street near Washington, occupying a lot of 137 feet front, running through to the Hamburg street canal, where a substantial wharf has been constructed for the shipping conveniences of the Works. The materials used, coal, iron, lumber, &c., may be deposited at the doors, and equal facilities are afforded for shipping the machines and implements manufactured. The correspondence and trade of the Works extends to all parts of the country.

The main building is of brick, the lower story occupied for iron finishing, and construction of the iron portions of the machines and implements. The upper story is a vast shop where the wood work for the articles is manufactured. The boiler and engine are adjoining in a fire proof building. The latter is a fine one, of 80 horse power, with Wright's cut off, and Swartz build. The machinery employed throughout the Works, is very perfect, and is made to perform many processes and adaptations which until recently were to be accomplished only by hand, and slowly, tediously, and less perfectly, at that.

As might be inferred from the title of the Works, the Company are engaged in the construction of farming implements and machines, such as Harvesters, Straw Cutters, Corn Shellers, Churns, &c., and have the control of many valuable Patents covering the various implements they manufacture. Their implements are mostly sold in the Middle and West-

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

ern States, and Canadas, yet they have customers in nearly every State and Territory in the Union, including Kansas, Texas, California and Oregon. The facilities for transportation from Buffalo to all parts of the country, enable them to successfully compete with Eastern manufacturers in the markets of New York and Philadelphia, while it gives them an immense advantage in the Western and South-western trade. The proprietors are live Yankees, from Massachusetts, and are thoroughly posted in all branches of the business, and their implements and machines are fast gaining a reputation as among the very best in the world.

A leading machine of their manufacture is KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER, a Buffalo invention which is gaining a high reputation throughout the country. In 1857 it took the Silver Medal as a Combined Machine, at the famous Syracuse trial, and in 1858 it took the First Premium as a Combined Machine, at the Indiana State Trial, at Laporte. It also received the First Premium as a Combined Machine, at the Indiana State Fair, and the First Premium as a Reaper, at the New York State Fair, besides numerous First Premiums at County Trials and Fairs in various parts of the country. We are informed that in every trial the Dynamometer has shown this to be by far the lightest draft machine in the market, and being made of iron, it is very durable, while its construction is very simple. By an ingenious arrangement, the cutter-bar is compelled to follow the irregularities of the ground, enabling the machine to work well on rough land, where it has heretofore been deemed impracticable for Harvesters to be used with any degree of success.

During the past season the proprietors have perfected a one-horse Harvester, entitled "*The Little Buffalo Harvester*," which is easily handled by one horse, works perfectly both in mowing and reaping, is capable of doing as much work as many two-horse machines, and its low price will bring it within the reach of many farmers who have hitherto been unable to procure the large machines.

So much for the machines and implements. Come we now to the scene the Works present. The premises are a perfect labyrinth of industry, where eighty men daily work out the aids and appliances for the material progress of America. The full complement is at work, despite the depression, getting a stock of machines and utensils ready for the Spring trade.

The four story warehouse of the Company, on Pearl street, formerly occupied by Tuton & Miles, is a regular Babel of Machines, some with tongues, too, and is being crammed fuller and fuller every day.

From the Toledo Blade, Jan. 20, 1859.

Although Kirby's American Harvester is a comparatively new machine, during the three years it has been in operation it has been so successful that it may now be ranked among the best Reapers and Mowers in use.

It has undergone several improvements since first brought out, although as long ago as 1857, when in a comparatively rude state, (compared with its present appearance,) it was awarded the Second Premium at the National Trial of Reapers and Mowers, held under the auspices of the United States Agricultural Society, at Syracuse, N. Y., and also a DIPLOMA for "cheapness, and ingenious adaptation of cutter to uneven surfaces."

Last year, (1858) at the State Trial of Reapers and Mowers, at La-
porte, Ind., which was the next great trial of importance since the National Trial at Syracuse, it was awarded the First Premium as a Combined Reaper and Mower, and was said to be about 60 lbs. the lightest draft machine on the field. The Dynamometer showed the draft in cutting grass, to be only 170 lbs.

We are told that within the past two years the Kirby Machine has met and vanquished every machine of any reputation, in the country. But the best test of any machine is in its practical operation, and we therefore advise farmers, before purchasing any machine, to claim the privilege of working it, or seeing it work on his own ground. Almost all machines work well upon smooth, level fields. But a majority of farms in this section are uneven, and the fields crossed by dead furrows and ditches; it is therefore highly important to have a machine that can adapt itself to the surface over which it has to pass.

Another important consideration in selecting a Harvester, is to find one that is a perfect COMBINED Machine—that will work equally well as a Mower and a Reaper. There are many good Single Mowers, and many good Single Reapers; but very few good Combined Reapers and Mowers. There seem to have been many signal failures in this respect.

Mr. KIRBY, on the contrary, appears to have been eminently successful in combining the two; and has this year brought his invention to a state of perfection that seems to have left no room for further improvement.

From the Daily Sentinel, Rome, N. Y.

"Kirby's American Harvester did its work admirably. It has light draft, does not require a heavy team, and easily accommodates itself to knolls, uneven surfaces, &c., and cuts close and clean. It is a simple machine, having but a very little machinery about it and is light in weight."

From the Observer, Madison, N. Y.

"The Kirby Machine or American Harvester, was patented in 1856, and received the Silver Medal at the Great Show at Syracuse, last July. This was more than was anticipated by the inventor, and, for a new machine, acquired a greater reputation than machines which were "old stagers" in the field for years. There have been several important improvements made in this machine during the last year, one of which is a wheel and lever by which the driver in his seat can raise one or both ends of the cutter bar to any desired height.

"The Kirby Machine combines more important points than any other machine before the public, having the lightest draft, lightest weight, lowest price, and the least liable to get out of repair. It is also the most simply constructed, the frame being all made of iron, and therefore will not warp when exposed to the weather as do most other machines. Having a cutter bar acting independent of the driving wheel, it works over uneven ground where no other machine can follow it; and having also an adjustable wheel on the outside of the cutter bar attached to a lever near the driver's seat, it is always within the driver's control. This machine, thus combining all these desirable points, commends itself to the favorable consideration of the farming community, in preference to any other machine before the public."

From the Daily Times, Toledo.

"Probably the best Mowing and Reaping Machine as yet invented, is Kirby's, of Buffalo. It has been proved, after the severest tests, that it obviates the serious objections which other machines possess, and it is taking its stand as the best Harvester in use."

From the Rural New Yorker, Rochester.

"The marked peculiarity of this machine is its adaptability to uneven surfaces. This peculiarity of the machine enables it to work on very rough land, and adapts it to all kinds of work, whether mowing, reaping, or gathering grass or clover seed."

From Emery's Journal of Agriculture, Albany.

"We witnessed its operation in the clover field at the Syracuse Trial last year, and in our judgment there was no machine that did superior work."

From the Brockport Republic, June 25, 1858.

"KIRBY'S MOWER AND REAPER.—We took a ride out to the farm of Mr. Crawford, the fore part of the week for the purpose of examining the operation of the above named machine. During our stay it was put not only to a thorough but to a very *severe* test. The machine in its construction, is so well balanced, as to form scarcely any side draft, (a difficulty with many machines,) and cuts the grass on an average, lower than ordinarily done with a scythe. It is drawn with perfect ease by a single span of horses, and the grass, whether heavy or light, dry or wet, never clogs it. During our stay, it was accidentally run over a solid rock that projected about a foot above the surface of the ground, without any damage to the machine. It shaves the bottom of furrows and tops of ridges alike with wonderful precision. The owner says, under fair circumstances, it will cut fifteen acres of grass a day, which we do not doubt after seeing it operate. We commend it to the attention of farmers."

Correspondent Commercial Reporter.

"It is considered, by skillful mechanics and scientific farmers, as the most durable and complete machine for either Mowing or Reaping, ever yet invented. It is emphatically *the* machine for the farmer, and needs but to be seen to be admired, and used to be appreciated."

From the Annual Report of the Kent Agricultural Society, Canada West.

"At a trial of mowing machines, between one made at Ingersoll called Manny's Patent, and one made at Buffalo by the Agricultural Machine Works, and called Kirby's Patent, Kirby's was, by all odds, the best. It cut clean and was free from clogging, and in draft far easier to the horses; in fact, an ordinary pair of horses could work the entire day without being distressed. Your directors have no hesitation in recommending "Kirby's Patent," both for mowing and reaping, beyond any other machine introduced into this county, notwithstanding our very natural desire, if facts would admit, to give the Canadian machine a similar recommendation."

GEO. WADE FOOT, *Pres't.*
RICH'D MONCK, *Sec'y.*

TESTIMONIALS.

We have received a large number of testimonials from the farmers who used KIRBY'S AMERICAN HARVESTER during the harvest of 1858. As our space will permit us to give only a portion of them, we have selected a few from each locality in which the machines have been used, to show that they have been equally successful on every variety of surface and soil, from the rugged hills of New England to the broad prairies of the West. We call especial attention to the remarkable unanimity with which all speak of the *lightness of draft, simplicity, durability, ease of management, adaptability to uneven surfaces, and perfection of work* both in mowing and reaping, exhibited by the KIRBY MACHINE. We invite all who are desirous of purchasing a machine the coming season, to give these testimonials an attentive perusal.

BROCKPORT, Monroe Co., N. Y., Aug. 26, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—I purchased a Kirby machine last spring, and after using it during the season cutting nearly 100 acres of grain and grass. I can recommend it as the best machine I have ever seen. Among the points in which it surpasses other machines I would mention the following as especially worthy the attention of farmers wishing to purchase a good machine:

1. Lightness of draft. In comparison with other machines I consider it the easiest of draft. A team can work all day on the machine easier than to plow all day, and can work day after day.
2. The side draft amounts to nothing in smooth ground, and, in rough ground and dead furrows, will not injure the side of the off horse.
3. There is no pressure on the horses necks.
4. In reference to working in rough ground, dead furrows and on stony ground—it will beat any and all the machines I ever saw worked. The machine worked on land, for mowing and reaping, where it was considered impossible to work any other machine.
5. In adaptation to different kinds of work I consider it far superior to any other machine.
6. Strength and durability. It is sufficiently strong for all purposes. The durability of the machine I should think would be greater than most machines made. Repairs but little.
7. It is perfectly simple in construction, and can be managed by man or boy alone.
8. The knives are very convenient.
9. It never will clog when knives are sharp.
10. It will do good work, will cut close or high as you may wish, spreads the grass well, and can cut in any place and just as you have a mind to do, by careful driving and good management.
11. It is easily converted from mower to reaper.
12. I cut rye, oats, barley, clover, timothy, and blue grass, and cut all satisfactorily.
13. The raker can work all day. The seat is very good. The gavels can be laid as well or better than other machines.

E. L. WOOD.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

PIKE, Allegany Co., N. Y., Sept. 24th, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

GENTLEMEN:—Early this season I attended a trial of Harvesters at Castile, for the purpose of selecting one for my own use. The machines upon the ground were Manny's, Ketchum's and Kirby's. I watched attentively during the trial the working of the different machines, and the manifest superiority of the Kirby machine induced me to select that as the best adapted to my wants, and I have since had no reason to repent of my choice. I have cut over seventy acres of grass and grain with my machine, and it has in all places worked to my entire satisfaction. In the following important particulars, I think it surpasses all machines now before the public, and I would recommend my brother farmers to at least give the Kirby machine a trial before purchasing any other:

1. The draft is lighter than any machine I am acquainted with, and is about equivalent to stubble plowing. A team can work all day, and day after day, with as much ease as they can plow stubble. We used horses.

2. It has comparatively little side draft.

3. There is no more, if as much, pressure on the horses necks, than from the tongue of a Lumber wagon.

4. Our ground is rough, and not prepared for a machine—stony, &c., some wet places, and all kinds of grass—yet the machine worked upon this ground beyond expectation, and fully proved its superiority over all other machines for rough land.

6. Its strength and durability are sufficient for any of our grounds, and for any ground on which a machine can be worked.

7. Its construction is simple.

8. Any person who can drive a team, can mow successfully.

9. The driver's seat is so fixed that it is convenient, and like riding on horseback, and with more ease.

10. It clogs less than any other machine I am acquainted with.

11. It cuts lodged clover smoother than a scythe; where we have used it, it has cut smooth and even. It can cut stubble at any desired length.

12. The quantity of work it can do is large. I have cut eight acres of clover and herds grass in one afternoon with my machine.

13. The change from mower to reaper, is simple and easy. It occupies one but four minutes to convert it from mower to reaper.

14. I have used it in cutting wheat, and find it entirely successful as a reaper.

15. The gavels are left on one side, ready for binding.

16. The raker's position, ease, &c., of raking off, are far superior to any other machine. A boy, after an hour's practice, can rake all day with comparative ease.

MOSES SMITH.

GATES, Monroe Co. N. Y., Aug. 12, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

GENTLEMEN:—I take pleasure in saying that Kirby's American Harvester, purchased of your agent, after having been used through the season gives me entire satisfaction in all respects. I find the draft very light, not heavier than cross-plowing, and a team can work with it all day and day after day easily. It is comparatively free from side draft, and is entirely free from pressure on the horses' necks. I have worked on very rough stony land, through dead furrows and water courses without difficulty. I find the machine strong, and, to all appearances, durable. Now readily, without any help; and find the driver's as well as the raker's seat, easy and convenient. It cuts close, and I have had no trouble with clogging. Is easily adjusted to cut different heights, and cuts around stones, stumps, &c., without difficulty. From what I have cut think it would not be a hard task to cut 15 to 20 acres in a day with one team in good grass on smooth bottom. Have cut little short of one hundred acres of grass and grain, more than half of which was grain. I think where grain is crinkled and down, oats, barley or wheat, it can be cut with this machine better than with any other I have seen work, and better than with a scythe or cradle

H. C. ROWE.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

HERMITAGE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sept. 28th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—In answer to your inquiry how I like the Kirby machine, I would say that I like it the best of any machine that I ever used, or ever saw. The draft is very light. Any team can draw it day after day, that can plow stubble ground. I mowed one hundred acres without feeding any grain, my horses keeping in nearly the same condition; and I have cut another hundred acres for different men, and they found teams, no one claiming that it was hard work for their horses. I have mowed a number of days without starting the sweat on the team, and never sweating without it was very hot weather. There is no side draft, and no pressure on the horses necks. I can move the slide back on the seat, so my weight will raise the tongue and neck-yoke. I have cut over all kinds of ground, and have cut the heaviest kind of clover, and cut it better than they do with scythes. I can cut the heaviest berds grass or clover that can be grown, and do good work. I have cut over dead furrows and ditches, and can cut the grass nearly as well as though it was smooth. I have set on the machine many a half day, and not been obliged to get off to do any fixing about the machine. It is a durable and strong machine. I have often run against stones and stumps that would stop the team, and have mowed very stony ground. Its construction is simple—any person that can manage a team, can use it successfully. The driver's seat is so fixed that it is convenient, and like riding on horse-back, and with more ease. I have cut over two hundred acres of grass; the first hundred I did not break a knife nor a guard, nor did I stop and start in the grass without backing. The last of my mowing was the big kind of clover, left for seed, being very heavy—a good day's work for a man to cut by hand would be three-fourths of an acre; I could cut from 8 to 10 acres with one team with ease. The men that I worked for said they should not mow any more clover seed by hand; they supposed it could not be cut by a machine. The wear of the machine is but a mere trifle; can scarcely see that the cogs have been worn any; in fact, the machine is a good one, and I would give more for it to-day, than I would before I used it.

One man told me before he saw the machine work, that he would not put his team on a machine, for they were regular horse killers, but after seeing it work by his neighbor's teams, he did put them on, and I cut four acres of big clover, on stony ground, in one hot afternoon. The team was a light pair of four year old colts. He said they did not sweat as bad as they would to draw a buggy. I cut some 25 acres with a team that had been very nearly used up on a Ketchum machine; their necks were sore, and they looked bad. They gave up using it to finish their haying, for they were used up as well as their horses, and say they will buy a Kirby machine another year, and think it is worth the price of the machine, in saving their horses.

HORACE RICHARDS.

GAINESVILLE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sep. 23, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby machine I bought of you is fully up to the recommend, and I am well pleased with the purchase. I have cut about 100 tons of hay with it—part of it heavy berds grass badly lodged, that would yield three tons to the acre, and part heavy lodged clover, and I found no trouble in cutting either with a light team. It will not clog in any kind of grass if the knives are sharp. I have seen a number of other machines work, and think the Kirby machine draws fully one third easier than any of them, and is much less liable to get out of repair. It is not harder work for a team than plowing stubble ground. I used a Ketchum machine one half day and I had more trouble with it than I have had with the Kirby machine in doing all my haying, and I am satisfied that my horses could not draw a Ketchum machine without hurting them. My meadows are mostly plowed in seven pace lands, and the water has cut out some of the furrows one foot or more deep, but the independent action of the finger bar enabled me to cut it as well as though it had been smooth land. I can recommend the Kirby machine to all farmers to be a good one, and the best I have ever seen.

ELEAZAR MARCHANT.

BUFFALO - AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

GAINESVILLE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sept. 23, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—We attended a trial of mowers at Castile last summer, for the purpose of selecting one for ourselves. There were in the field the Kirby, Ketchum, Allen, and Manly machines. The Kirby machine manifestly did the best work, with one-third less draft than any of the others; and, being the cheapest, lightest, most simple, and apparently most durable machine, we concluded to buy a Kirby; and, after using it through the season, we felt well satisfied with our bargain. We have mowed some very uneven ground, (eight acres of it had never been plowed,) and we did the work as well as it could have been done with a scythe. The independent action of the finger bar enables the machine to work well on any ground that can be raked with a horse rake. We think no kind of grass will clog it, be it light or heavy, even with a slow motion, if the knives are sharp. Last year we used a Ketchum machine, and it made our horses sweat badly, and was very hard work for them; but this year our horses have hardly started the sweat during the season with the Kirby machine, and we think it draws full one-third easier than the Ketchum. We can drive with a slow or a quick motion as we please, and stop and start in the grass, without backing up as we had to with the Ketchum machine.

HIRAM SMITH.
HENRY REYNOLDS.
NYRUM REYNOLDS.

SOUTH WALES, Erie Co., September 4, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—In July last I purchased one of Kirby's Mowing Machines, and my son, (a boy with no experience with the use of any other machine,) took charge of it to cut my remaining grass, with a light common team, and he was enabled to satisfy me that I had made a good investment. The machine worked well, and easily for the team, cutting the grass very smoothly where the ground was in proper condition, and mowing also where many stones were in the grass much better than I had anticipated. I consider it a necessary article, and one which I should feel unwilling to do without. The expense for repairs has been merely nominal.

DAVID S. WARNER.

UNION, Monroe Co., N. Y., Aug. 2, 1858.

I purchased one of Kirby's American Harvesters, which I have used this season with the best success, having cut about 140 acres of grass and grain for myself and neighbors. I have used it on both smooth and rough ground, and I am satisfied there is no machine before the public which, for lightness of draft, amount and quality of work, ability to keep the surface of the ground through ditches and over stones, freedom from side draft, comfortable position for driver and raker, the workmanlike manner in which the grass and grain are cut and laid, and durability, all considered, combine so many advantages as this machine. Therefore I cheerfully recommend it above all others, to any farmer who wishes a machine.

COONROD B. LEWIS.

ORANGEVILLE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sept. 16th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—I have used one of Kirby's American Harvesters two seasons, and am perfectly satisfied that in respect to durability, lightness of draft, ease of management and quality of work, it is surpassed by no other machine with which I am acquainted, either as a mower or reaper. I attended a trial of mowing machines at Warsaw in 1857, for the purpose of learning which was the best machine, by seeing several kinds operate together, and from what I then saw, was induced to try a Kirby machine, and now, after thoroughly testing it for two seasons in grain and all kinds of grass, I have no reason to regret the choice I then made.

HENRY NESBITT.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

RUSHFORD, Allegany Co., N. Y., Aug. 26th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Machine I purchased of you, more than meets my expectations. I have mowed fifty acres without any expense for repairs. I did not purchase it until after I had attended a trial at Castile, between Kirby, Manny's, Ketchum's and Allen's machines, at work in the same field, and I was well satisfied that the Kirby machine did the best work, with one-third less draft than either of the above machines. I worked it with a common sized pair of horses, and they handled it as easy as they do common plowing. I mowed four acres of lodged clover in two hours on a side hill, and done it better than I could have done it with a scythe.

P. CORSE.

RUSHFORD, Allegany Co., N. Y., Aug. 27th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—After attending a trial of machines at Angelica, between Kirby's, Ketchum's and Manny's machines, I purchased a Kirby machine, and it more than answered my expectations. The independent action of the finger bar enables it to cut smooth over any surface. I had a Ketchum machine at work on my farm; I know that the draft of the Kirby machine is one-third less than the Ketchum, and no pressure upon the horses necks. I recommend it to farmers to be the best machine now in use.

JOHN HILL.

CENTERVILLE, Allegany Co., N. Y., Aug. 28th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Machine I purchased of you this season, has fully answered my expectation. I have cut 70 acres of grass and grain, and it works equally well with fast or slow motion, in heavy or light grass without clogging, and I worked it with a span of horses of medium size, without any expense in repairs. I have seen the Ketchum machine worked on the same farm with mine, and I think the draft of the Kirby machine is one-third less, with no pressure on the horse's necks, over that of a common wagon. It also adapts itself to uneven surfaces, by the independent action of the finger bar, which I consider a great advantage in the present condition of our meadows in this county, and I would cheerfully recommend it to the farmers of this vicinity, over any other machine that I am acquainted with.

NELSON BLANCHARD.

CANEADEA, Allegany Co., N. Y., Aug. 23d, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Harvester I purchased of you, more than meets my expectation, being well made, and works well in grass or grain, requiring only an ordinary team to cut ten or twelve acres per day. There is less side draft than any other machine I have ever seen. I mowed clover, badly lodged among stumps and stones, and done the work better than I could do it with a scythe. It pleases me better than any other machine that I ever saw.

TIMOTHY RICE.

GAINESVILLE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sept. 25th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Machine did the work well, and cut the grass smooth and close, and spread it even. I have used one of Ketchum's machines for the last three years, and the Kirby machine works one half easier for man and beast. It is no harder work for a team to mow with your machine than it is to drag, and you can work slow or fast. I think they are light and durable, and a good machine for farmers to buy.

A. B. CRAVATH.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

AURORA, Erie Co., N. Y., Oct. 24th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Last season after commencing my haying, I found it going hard, and after some investigation, I bought a Kirby machine to help me out. I had some seventy acres of meadow, about half of which I thought I could mow with a machine, but the Kirby proved to be so well adapted to rough land, that I finally mowed nearly the whole of my ground with it. Some of it was very strong and rough. At one time I had in my field a Ketchum machine (with a large heavy team, much better than mine,) where the grass was very thick at the bottom, and I found that my team did the work much easier with the Kirby machine, and gained once around the piece—some 40 rods long—and I had much less difficulty about clogging. My team can mow with the Kirby machine as easy as they can harrow, and I think it preferable in every respect, to all other machines.

M. J ALLEN.

ALDEN, Erie Co., N. Y., Nov. 9th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN—Being about to purchase a mowing machine last season, I took pains to witness the operation of Manny's, Ketchum's, and others. I was convinced that the Kirby machine was the best in all respects, being lighter, and less side draft. To convince myself thoroughly, I went into a trial with Ketchum's machine in lodged clover, and I could operate where the Ketchum machine could not without clogging.

SAMUEL ST. JOHN.

HERMITAGE, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Nov. 8th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Mowing Machine I bought of you last summer, is a good one, and it works better than I expected. One of my neighbors has a Ketchum machine, and mine works easier with two horses, than his does with three. They are a great saving to farmers; last year my help cost me \$150, this year, with the help of my machine, it cost only \$50, and I cut some twenty tons more hay this year than last.

BENJ. F. FRENCH.

GENOA, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 30th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby machine you sold us last season, has given good satisfaction. It draws very light, is durable, and is quickly changed from cutting grass, to grain, &c. We prefer it to any other kind we have seen.

JOHN W. HOLLISTER,
FRANCIS HOLLISTER.

GENOA, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 30th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby Harvester you sold us last season, has proved itself worthy the best we could say about it. It works easy, does the work well, and is just what every farmer wants. We think it the best machine made.

WM. CLOSE,
R. D. SHELDON.

LANSING, Tompkins Co., N. Y., Nov. 25th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Last season I purchased of your Company one of Kirby's Harvesters, and have cut about sixty acres of grain and grass, and find it works well every way. For ease of draft, I think it surpasses any machine I have seen or used.

WILLIAM HOLDEN.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

MILTON, Saratoga Co., N. Y., Sept. 1st, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—After examining the several Mowing Machines in use in this county, we decided upon purchasing one of Kirby's Patent; and after successfully using it for the past season, we take pleasure in saying that we have found combined in the Kirby machine—one calculated for the labor of an ordinary two-horse team, without any extra amount of feeding or outlay of strength—is managed with ease by one person, and cuts and spreads evenly a wide swarth. The independent action of the finger bar is an improvement we would not overlook in our enumeration of its merits, having never seen this principle in other machines. We would also say that there is the least side draft with this machine of any with which we are acquainted; occasioning no inconvenience on account of chafing the sides or necks of the team. Our lands were not prepared with reference to machine mowing, and consisted of side hills, more or less covered with stone, furrows and knolls. We have also found that the machine is capable of mowing lodged grass, as well or better than can be done with a scythe. We would add in conclusion, that it is worthy the attention of the economist, and every intelligent farmer, being, as we believe, the best machine now before the public.

CHARLES WHEELER,
WM. WARING.

WATERTOWN, Jefferson Co., N. Y., Sept. 9th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—I certify that I have purchased and used one of Kirby's American Harvesters the past season. The machine works as well as I expected it would. It is of light draft, requiring but a single team of light horses to work it; it draws easier than a plow; it is peculiarly adapted to rough surfaces, where other machines could hardly be brought into use; works in very stony land better than I expected; is strong and durable, costing but 75 cents for repairs during the season; is simple of construction, requiring but one person to work it. The driver's seat is convenient, and takes all pressure off the horses' necks. It cuts closer than any other machine I ever saw, and very even, more so than any scythe. It spreads the grass better than it can be spread by hand. Can be changed to a reaper in a few minutes; it reaps well in wheat and barley. The raker's seat is convenient; it works clean, and does not scatter, and leaves the gavels uniform.

JOSEPH RASBACH, Jr.

WATERTOWN, Jefferson Co., N. Y., July 19th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—I have cut with Kirby's Patent Mowing Machine, heavy clover, and clover and timothy that would turn full three tons per acre, and very badly lodged and tangled. This machine worked perfectly satisfactory—not clogging in the worst tangled clover, and doing the work in good style; is of light draft, and no side draft, or if any, not perceptible.

G. C. BRADLEY.

BROCKPORT, Monroe Co., N. Y., Aug. 17th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN :—We have cut nearly fifty acres of grass and grain with the Combined Machine we bought of you, and we have fully realized our most sanguine expectations in its operation, both as a reaper and mower. We think it is unsurpassed by any of its competitors in its ability to work in all kinds of grass and grain, lightness of draft, facility and ease of operating, and in its independent action of wheel and cutter bar, it has an advantage far above any other we have seen in use.

H. & A. H. CLARK.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

Joy, Wayne Co., N. Y., Sept. 26th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—We purchased one of Kirby's American Harvesters in 1857, and have used it through two seasons, and it has given us entire satisfaction. It has many points of superiority over any other machine we ever saw. In lightness of draft, it is far in advance of other machines. We have worked it with a light team, and with as much ease as in cross-plowing or dragging. There is no side draft, and no pressure on the horses necks. The machine adapts itself to uneven surfaces better than any other machine. In cutting clover a few days ago, it went through a hollow or hole without hindrance, where our Allen's machine was swamped, and had to be pried out. It does not clog, and in reaping the gavels are laid easily, and in good shape.

JOSEPH GREEN,
SAMUEL B. GREEN.

VENICE, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Dec. 25th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—My Kirby Harvester has more than answered my expectation. I have given it thorough trial, and taken pains to compare it with many others, and in my judgment, there is none that can bear even a comparison. The principle upon which it is built combines cheapness, simplicity and durability; the draft is light, and comparatively but little side draft, in short, I cannot say too much in its favor.

C. C. ELLSWORTH.

EAST GENOA, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 27th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Your inquiry of us (since we have the Wood & Manny machine, and also have had good opportunity the last season to witness the operation of the American Harvester,) which machine we would give the preference; in reply, we say that for lightness of draft, and durability, we think Kirby's machine excels all others, and if we had occasion to purchase, our choice would be Kirby's American Harvester.

JAMES MEAD, Jr.,
WILLIAM LOUW.

LOCKE, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 27th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Last season I purchased one of Kirby's American Harvesters, and it has cut our grass and grain in the neatest manner. I was much surprised to see it work so well on ground where the stones had not been picked off, and the surface uneven. I can confidently recommend them to any one wishing a good harvester. I do not think it can be beat.

DAVID HOWELL.

EAST GENOA, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Oct. 2d, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby American Harvester I purchased of your Company last year, has fully answered the recommend you give it. I have cut over one hundred and fifty acres of grass and grain, and believe it to be the best machine yet made. The draft is very light, and our ground is very rough.

WILLIAM TAIT.

EAST GENOA, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Nov. 12th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—The Kirby American Harvester I purchased of you the last season, has given good satisfaction. I have been using other machines heretofore, but consider this one far the best I have seen, both in its operation and durability.

PHILIP SHAFER.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

Marion, Marion Co., Ohio, Sept. 11th, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

We, the undersigned, having used Kirby's American Harvester during the past season, take pleasure in testifying to the unequalled merits of this deservedly popular Machine. We have used the Machine throughout the season in every variety of work, both in grass and grain, and it has entirely exceeded our expectations, both in ease of draft and management, and in the superior quality of its work. Its mowing surpasses any mowing we ever saw done, either by scythe or machine; and as a Reaper it worked to our entire satisfaction, and the raking off is very easily and perfectly done. Though we have cut over a large number of acres, some of it very rough and difficult ground, we have had no breakages, and no expense for repairs. We would mention the following points of excellence in this Machine, wherein we think it surpasses all other Machines within our knowledge.

1st. We believe the Kirby Machine to be the lightest draft Machine in use. Mowing and reaping with it is not any harder for horses than old ground plowing. An ordinary span of horses can work the Machine all day, and day after day, without unusual fatigue, and it does not gall nor bruise them by side draft or pressure upon their necks.

2d. Being made almost entirely of iron, and exceedingly simple in construction, we think it the most durable Machine in use. Certainly no Machine could be more durable than this has proved itself to be during this season's work,—requiring no repairs whatever.

3d. It seems to make no difference with it how rough the ground is, the finger bar always follows the surface, and the knives have full action. The master wheel will run in dead furrows and ditches without interfering with the action of the knives, and we can work the Machine where no other Machine we ever saw can go.

4th. It will work equally well in lodged or standing grass, and any boy can work the Machine with ease, and mow from 10 to 15 acres per day.

5th. The driver's seat is the easiest of any Mowing Machine within our knowledge. It is a perfect spring seat.

6th. The change from Mower to Reaper is simple, easy, and occupies but little time.

7th. It is as superior to other Machines in reaping as it is in mowing. Its draft is light—it works well either in lodged or standing grain, cutting at any desired height, and saving all the grain. The gavels are delivered at the side in good shape for binding. The raker's seat is the most comfortable, and his position the most natural, and his work the easiest that we ever saw on any Reaping Machine.

We consider all of the above points of great importance to farmers purchasing and using harvesters, and from our knowledge of the various Machines before the public, we feel confident that there is no other Machine which combines all these points in so great perfection as Kirby's American Harvester, and we would advise all our brother farmers at least to try one of the Kirby Machines before buying any other.

JACOB HOLVERSTALL, JOHN PAGE,
SILAS IDLEMAN, WM. H. SCRIBNER.

Mt. VERNON, Knox Co., Ohio, Oct. 14th, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

We have used your Kirby Machine (Reaper and Mower combined,) and pronounce it the best Machine we ever saw, and cheerfully recommend it to our brother farmers. It is easy of draft, only requiring one pair of horses to work it all day with ease. It is also a very durable Machine. We have used it in both grass and grain, and it has exceeded our most sanguine expectations as to its lightness of draft, durability, and performance of work. We have seen the Manny Machine work in grass and grain, and consider it much inferior to your Machine in every respect.

MELVIN WING, E. B. SHINABURY,
WM. O. JOHNSON, ISAAC JOHNSON,
JOHN WING, JOHN P. GATSHALL.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP, Mich. Sept. 10th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN.—I purchased one of your Harvesters of Mr. Bush, of Toledo, last July. I selected it in preference to others, after attending a trial of machines in Toledo, between Ketchum's, Allen's, Ball & Altman's Ohio Mower, and Kirby's. I was satisfied at that trial,—as were the judges, and every body else who witnessed it—that it was the lightest running, and best machine in use. I have found it all that it is represented to be, after having done all my harvesting, and trying it thoroughly on every kind of soil, and in all kinds of work. As a reaper, no machine could possibly exceed it, as I have cut grain laying in every possible shape and direction, where a cradle would be of no use whatever. And in every case, I can cut cleaner, and lay the straw better for binding, than can be done with a cradle or any other harvester I have ever seen. As a mower, I do not see how it can be beat. I have tried it in fine grass, wet grass and tangled clover, without its choking or clogging at all. I think it cannot be clogged when kept in good running order. It is a very light draft machine, and I think will not tire a span of horses more than it would to draw around an empty lumber wagon through the fields. Although it works to a charm, and I think excels everything else in draft, simplicity of structure, and manner of doing its work, its chief point of superiority is in its adjustable structure, by which it can adapt itself to all kinds of uneven surfaces, and work as well in dead furrows and ditches, as on level surfaces. Take it all in all, I am satisfied it can't be beat, and shall take pleasure in recommending it to my neighbors.

Yours Truly,

JOSIAH HUNGERFORD.

LOGAN COUNTY, Ohio, Oct. 1st, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

GENTS.—I bought one of your Combined American Harvesters, (Kirby's Patent) and am well pleased with its performance. I am satisfied that it will cut any kind of grass, standing or down, and will cut grain that could not be cut with a cradle. I find it easy work for two horses, and I prefer it to any other machine I ever saw. It does its work better than it can be done with a scythe or cradle. I would not be without the machine.

MARION MUSSELMAN.

LOGAN COUNTY, Oct. 1st, 1858.

BUFFALO AGRICULTURAL MACHINE WORKS.

GENTS:—We bought one of your Combined American Harvesters, (Kirby's Patent) and were well pleased with its performance. We are satisfied that it will cut any kind of grass, standing or down, and will cut grain that could not be cut with a cradle. It will cut from 12 to 14 acres per day. It does its work better than it can be done with scythe or cradle.

**WILLIAM C. PENDRY,
JACOB FREY.**

MESOPATAMIA, Trumbull Co., Ohio, Sept. 25th, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—I cut seventy-five acres of grass with the Kirby Machine, and then sold it. It gave entire satisfaction. I mowed some very rough ground, where I think no other machine without the same independent action of the cutter bar, could work, and I can cut ten acres per day without any trouble, and want you to send me another Kirby machine. I think they are the best in use.

ROBERT WILCOX.

Buffalo Agricultural Machine Works

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KIRBY'S HARVESTERS.

American Harvester	as Mower,	\$105 00
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With wrought Shafts and Babbitt Boxes.

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Hide Roll Hay Cutter.

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2	8	53¼ "	11¼ "	9 00
2½	10	53¼ "	1 " "	10 00
3	6	63¼ "	13½ "	10 00
4	8	63¼ "	16¼ "	11 00
5	10	63¼ "	1 " "	12 00
5½	12	63¼ "	3¼ "	13 00
5¾	14	63¼ "	1¼ "	14 00
6	6	71¼ "	13¼ "	14 00
7	8	71¼ "	11¼ "	15 00
8	10	71¼ "	1 " "	16 00
9	6	81¼ "	13¼ "	17 00
10	8	81¼ "	11¼ "	18 00
11	10	81¼ "	1 " "	19 00
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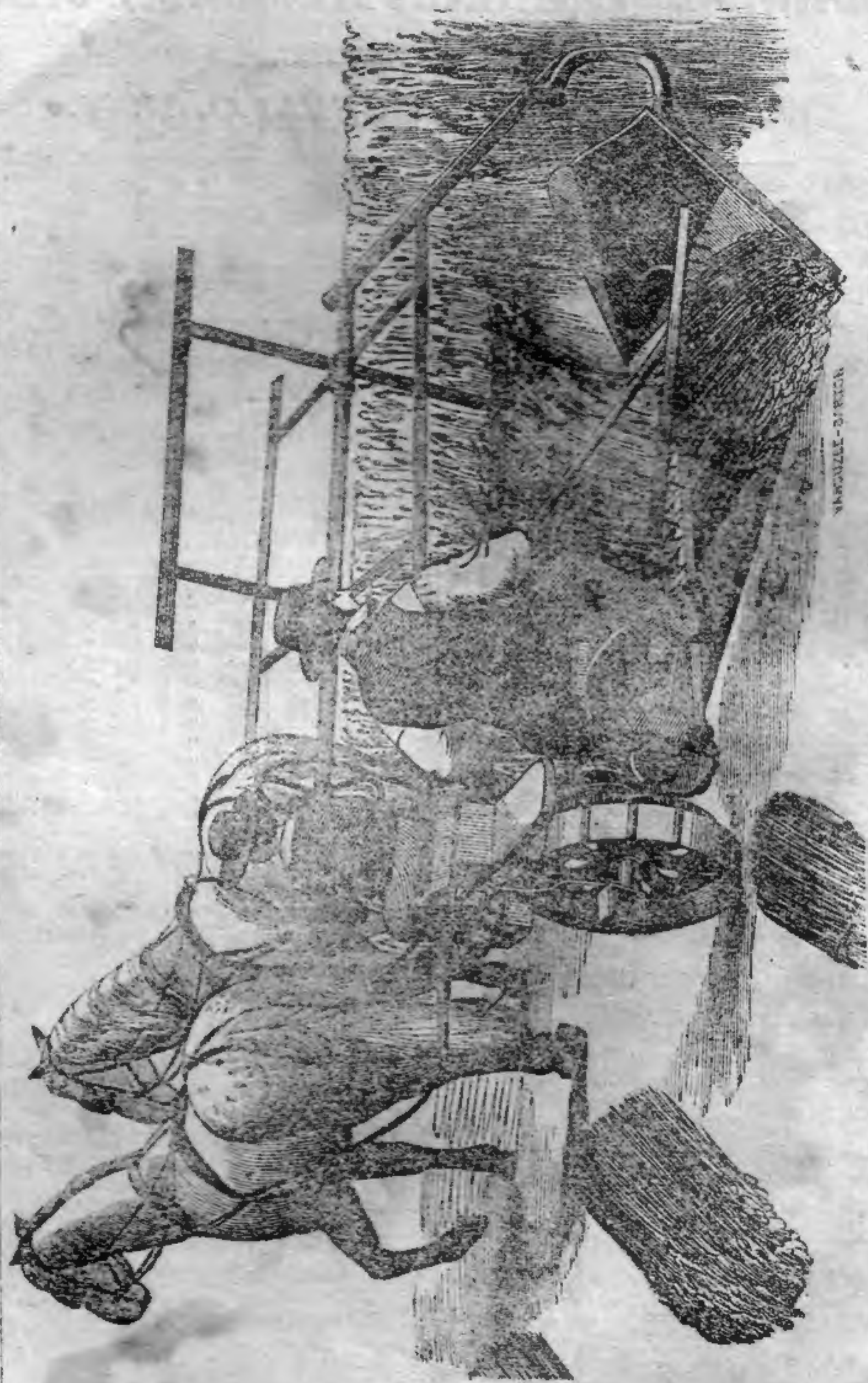
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